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THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Identical letters dated 15 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter dated 13 April 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Abdul Rahim Ghafoorzai, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 39 and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. G. Ravan FARHÂDI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Identical letters dated 13 April 1997 from the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Government of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, I have the honour to draw your attention to the recent developing situation in Afghanistan, endangering the peace process in the country and jeopardizing peace and stability in the entire region.

According to reliable accounts, the Taliban mercenaries, heavily reinforced from outside, have very recently planned to once again wage a massive military operation against the northern parts of the country within the upcoming days. The mobilization of forces carried out with direct cross-border assistance already having reached the capital Kabul, continues to develop at an enormous rate. Thousands of paramilitary militia from outside, whose identity and nationality have been well explained in previous communications addressed to the President of the Security Council and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, are part of this mobilization. The Council, however, will recall that the involvement of foreign military personnel in the Afghan conflict was identified as inadmissible in Security Council resolution 1076 (1996) as well as in General Assembly resolution 51/195 of 17 December 1996.

Greatly concerned, the Islamic State of Afghanistan wishes to request you to take appropriate preventive measures in order to halt the planned massive military assault which would inevitably entail the loss of many lives of the innocent civilian population. Nevertheless, the allied forces of the Supreme Council for the Defence of Afghanistan continue to take appropriate responsive measures to offset the onslaught.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan once again expresses its support for the efforts of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, headed by Mr. Norbert Holl. If all sides involved in the conflict, as well as the neighbouring countries, sincerely cooperated in the United Nations endeavours for peace and stability in Afghanistan, the objectives of the related resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council could be realized.

(Signed) Abdul Rahim GHAFOORZAI
Acting Foreign Minister